

University of South Dakota, University Hall
(Old Main)
Clark Street
Vermillion
Clay County
South Dakota

HABS No. SD-11

HABS
SD
14-VERM
3-

PHOTOGRAPHS

HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service
Washington, D.C. 20240

HABSD-12013-
HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE	COUNTY	TOWN OR VICINITY
SOUTH DAKOTA	CLAY	VERMILLION
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME)		HABS NO.
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA, UNIVERSITY HALL		SD-11
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE		
OLD MAIN		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES)		
Clark Street		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE)	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE)	
1883- West wing; 1884-85- Center portion	W.L. Dow, Yankton architect for the original	
1887- East wing; 1893- Reconstruction	building	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE)		
The structure was the first building of higher public education erected in the Territory of Dakota. It was said to be "Scandinavian" in appearance. It was destroyed by fire in 1893, and was immediately rebuilt. Materials and decorations from the buildings at the World Columbia Exposition of 1893 were incorporated in the rebuilt structure.		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE)		
Eclectic classical style		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS)		
Open coursed, cut pink quartzite quarried from nearby Sioux Falls Quartzite		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE)		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTEThe building consists of a central section with two wings on either side. The wings are based on an apse and transept plan. Each wing has a tower. A larger tower on the central section is derived from Georgian design. Sandstone quoins decorate every corner and the sides of the windows. Centered in the central section is a two-story projecting pavilion with sandstone trim. On top of it is a pediment (con't. to p. 2)		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED)		
Not recorded when this report was written.		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES		
Rebuilt following a major 1893 fire.		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE		
Fair. It is presently used as classrooms and work areas.		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE		
The structure is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.)		
National Register of Historic Places Inventory-Nomination Form, 1972		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION		DATE
Susan McGown, Historian, Historic American Buildings Survey		1982

EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (continued from page 1):

with a tympanum containing images representing education.

ADDENDUM TO
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA, UNIVERSITY HALL
(University of South Dakota, Old Main)
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National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20001